Samples of wild/migratory birds were also taken from the area surrounding Navapur. Till date, no sample of wild/migratory birds has tested positive for avian influenza.

(c) It is not possible to predict whether the virus will strike India again during the winter season. It is dependent on several factors including persistence of virus in local poultry/birds and transmission of disease if any, from migratory birds. The present wave of Avian Influenza commenced in Hong Kong in 1997 but the first outbreak was reported in India in February 2006 only.

(d) Preventive measures are in place to prevent outbreak of Avian Influenza and to control/contain it in case of outbreak. The pre-outbreak measures include ban on poultry/poultry products from HPAI infected countries, intensified surveillance, alerting of Quarantine Stations, circulation of Action Plan and Advisories to States, formation of Joint Monitoring mechanisms with stakeholders such as Health, Environment & Forests etc., developing the central strategic reserve of vaccine and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), providing training to officials of Health, Animal Husbandry and Forests ect.

Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for fishery, animal husbandry and poultry farming

†3659. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the economic condition of farmers having small land holdings is pitiable;

(b) whether Government are providing economic aid/grant to the farmers for fishery, animal husbandry and poultry farming, etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, particularly in the context of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The economic condition of small and marginal farmers leaves lot to be desired.

(b) and (c) The schemes implemented by the Department of Animal

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries mainly focus at strengthening the infrastructure of State Governments for promoting fishery, animal husbandry and poultry farming. None of these schemes except National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen is directly beneficiary oriented. Under these schemes, funds are released to the State Governments on the basis of viability of proposals received, past utilization and availability of funds. During 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 842.30 lakh was released to Madhya Pradesh under various schemes related to fishery, animal husbandry and poultry farming.

Production of cotton, oilseeds and pulses

3660. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of cotton, oilseeds and pulses in Andhra Pradesh has come down drastically from 2000-01;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a drastic reduction;

(c) whether Government have made any analysis in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) In Andhra Pradesh , the production of cotton and pulses increased in 2005-06 as compared to 2000-01. However, in case of oilseeds the total production decreased in 2005-06 as compared to 2000-01. The year-wise production of cotton,oilseeds and pulses in Andhra Pradesh is shown in the table below:

(Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Cotton$	Oilseeds	Pulses
2000-01	16.63	25.11	10.54
2001-02	18.77	16.14	11.38
2002-03	10.86	12.56	10.62
2003-04	18.90	16.14	12.39
2004-05	21.90	22.09	10.13
2005-06*	19.76	20.05	11.82

$ Production in lakh baises of 170 Kgs.

* 3rd Advance Estimates.